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17 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
18 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
19

20 COLUMBIA PICTURES INDUSTRIES,
21 INC., et al.,

22 Plaintiffs,

23 v.

24 GARY FUNG, et al.,

25 Defendants.
26
27
28

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Case No. CV 06-5578-SVW (JCx)

**DEFENDANTS' RESPONSE BRIEF
RE CONTEMPT MOTIONS
PURSUANT TO THE COURT'S
AUGUST 7, 2013 ORDER (DKT. 554)**

Hearing Date:
October 7, 2013 at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Stephen V. Wilson
Courtroom 6

Winston & Strawn LLP
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Pursuant to the Court's August 7, 2013 Order (Dkt. 554), Defendants hereby file their response to Plaintiffs' September 9, 2013 Brief Re Contempt (Dkt. 586).

I. INTRODUCTION

Plaintiffs acknowledge that if Defendants were filtering Plaintiffs' works from isoHunt.com (the "Main isoHunt site"), this would be sufficient to comply with the Injunction. [Plaintiffs' Brief (*see* Dkt. 586) at 3:10-12 ("it is important to note that Defendants otherwise could have complied with the Injunction simply by applying an effective copyright filter to Main Isohunt Dot-Torrent files that correspond to Plaintiffs' copyrighted works"); *id.* at 12:5-6 ("... there is no question that Defendants could have applied the same keyword filter [as they applied to isoHunt Lite] to the Main IsoHunt site").] But as Defendants pointed out in their July 25, 2013 brief and in the Declaration of Gary Fung opposing Plaintiffs' renewed request for sanctions —*Defendants have been filtering Plaintiffs' titles from U.S. users on the Main isoHunt site to comply with the Injunction since 2010.* [7/25/13 (Dkt. 547-1) Decl. of Gary Fung, ¶¶ 2-3; Dkt. 547 at 12:16-17 ("And isoHunt filters Plaintiffs' titles from the main isoHunt site search results just as it filters on isoHunt lite."); Supplemental Declaration of Gary Fung ("Supp. Fung Decl.") ¶¶ 4-10.]

And that filtering has been very effective. As of July 25, 2013, Defendants' title filtering has successfully blocked 3,656,701 torrent files. [7/25/13 (Dkt. 547-1) Decl. of Gary Fung, ¶ 3.] In just the past few months, Defendants have filtered nearly 200,000 additional torrent files, making the total number to date more than 3,843,483. [Supp. Fung Decl. ¶ 10.] Defendants also err on the side of "over-filtering." [7/25/13 Fung Decl. (Dkt. 547-1) ¶ 3; Supp. Fung Decl. ¶ 5.] Additionally, 929,027 titles are blocked *globally* (from *both* U.S. and international users) through Defendants following their DMCA notice and takedown procedures. [*Id.* at ¶ 11.]

Even if Defendants were not filtering U.S. users from the Main isoHunt site (which they plainly are), this Court made clear in the Injunction itself and in subsequent orders that Defendants must only take "all reasonable steps" to comply

1 with the Injunction, and could only be held in contempt for “knowing” violations.
 2 [6/11/10 Order (Dkt. 445) at 4:18-5:6; (citing original Injunction ¶¶ 2, 3); 8/7/13
 3 Order (Dkt. 554) at 6 (“...Defendants must only take ‘all *reasonable* steps within
 4 [their] power to insurance compliance’ with an injunction.”) (quoting *Hook v. Arizona*
 5 *Dep’t of Corr.* 107 F.3d 1397, 1403 (9th Cir. 1997).] Moreover, Paragraph 10 of the
 6 original Injunction makes clear that the Injunction “covers any acts of direct
 7 infringement, as defined in 17 U.S.C. § 106, that take place in the United States.” As
 8 the Court recognized in its August 7, 2013 Order, Plaintiffs are alleging contempt
 9 based on the Main isoHunt site even though:

10 the *only* way that a foreign computer that has downloaded a Dot-Torrent
 11 file from the Main Isohunt Site might participate in a swarm that included
 12 an American computer is if the Dot-Torrent file *itself* directed the foreign
 13 computer to use a tracker *not operated by Defendants*. Plaintiffs do not
 14 dispute that, any time a computer contacts one of Defendants’ trackers
 15 and asks to participate in a swarm, Defendants’ trackers do *not* permit the
 16 computer to download or upload content to an American computer.

17 [8/7/13 Order (Dkt. 554) at 5 (emphasis in original).]

18 The grounds upon which Plaintiffs base their request for contempt are so far
 19 attenuated they do not present a reasonable or feasible basis for finding Defendants in
 20 contempt for knowing violations of the Injunction, and bear no connection to the
 21 inducement for which Defendants were found liable and that the Injunction was
 22 designed to prevent. This conduct of parties participating in swarms controlled by
 23 *non-isoHunt* trackers is unknown to Defendants such that it cannot result in a
 24 contempt finding, and certainly not reasonably within the scope of any U.S.
 25 Injunction. It is not reasonable or feasible to expect Defendants to shoulder the
 26 burden of controlling what swarm an international user joins after leaving Defendants’
 27 system through *non-isoHunt* trackers. While technically Defendants “could” require
 28 users to only be directed towards isoHunt trackers, this is outside the scope of the

1 Injunction in light of the fact that Defendants are already complying with the U.S.
2 Injunction as to U.S. users by title filtering, and in any event, Plaintiffs' expansive
3 interpretation should be rejected as unreasonable and an overly broad interpretation of
4 Paragraph 10 of the Injunction.

5 Defendants are already taking steps that Plaintiffs themselves acknowledge
6 moot Plaintiffs' requests for sanctions regarding the Main isoHunt site. Plaintiffs'
7 arguments to the contrary appear to be based on a fundamental misapprehension of the
8 scope of Defendants' filtering. Plaintiffs' supporting Declaration of Ellis Horowitz
9 ("Horowitz Decl.") not only relies on data from the version of Defendants' site only
10 available to *non*-U.S. users, Plaintiffs' expert *also* states that Defendants could have
11 alternatively filtered the Main isoHunt site like it does the U.S. site. [Horowitz Decl.
12 (Dkt. 586) ¶ 23; Supp. Fung Decl. ¶ 12.] The Court's question regarding whether it
13 would be technically feasible to take separate steps to prevent activity that does not
14 even occur through Defendants' systems is therefore moot, as Defendants are already
15 title filtering the Main isoHunt site for users with U.S. IP addresses.

16 In its August 7, 2013 Order (Dkt. 554), this Court stated that it had not yet
17 decided the parties' dispute over "whether or not this Court can hold Defendants in
18 contempt of a motion subsequently modified by the Ninth Circuit." *Id.* at 4. Plaintiffs
19 ask this Court to hold Defendants in contempt based on a motion pending since 2010,
20 for alleged violations of an Injunction that has been found by the Ninth Circuit to be
21 defective and require modification in multiple respects, including that "several
22 provisions" of the original Injunction "fail[ed]" to meet the standard of Rule 65(d) of
23 the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure because they were "too vague," "too imprecise,"
24 "unclear" and "more burdensome than necessary." Because the modified Injunction
25 was entered by the Court *after* Plaintiffs' Motion for contempt, it would be improper
26 to hold Defendants in contempt for alleged violations under the original Injunction.
27 Plaintiffs have suggested that the Court should attempt to parse out those issues
28 presented in 2010 because the injunction was only ordered to be modified in part. But

given that the modifications ordered by the Ninth Circuit impact the preliminary definitions, overall clarity, and notice to Defendants, there is no reasonable way to separate the issues impacted by the Ninth Circuit Order from those left undisturbed. Indeed, the Ninth Circuit clarified that Defendants were not required to correct or ascertain alternate titles to Plaintiffs' works, an issue that was squarely at issue in Plaintiffs' Motion for contempt. The Ninth Circuit also made clear that the Injunction did not extend to acts outside of the United States, and yet Plaintiffs' contempt allegations seek to do just that.

For any or all of these reasons, the Court should deny Plaintiffs' efforts to hold Defendants in contempt of the original Injunction.

II. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

A. Defendants Have Taken Reasonable Steps To Comply With The Injunction, Including Filtering On The Main isoHunt Site Since 2010

The original Injunction provided that Defendants could *not* be found in contempt if they had taken reasonable steps to comply. [6/11/10 Order (Dkt. 445) at 4:18-5:6 (citing original injunction ¶¶ 2, 3); 8/7/13 Order (Dkt. 554) at 6.] Defendants have gone to great lengths to reasonably comply with the Injunction, including through the following steps: (1) U.S. users are blocked from all isoHunt trackers (which operate at podtropolis.com and torrentbox.com); (2) U.S. users cannot even access Defendants' websites at podtropolis.com and torrentbox.com, but instead are redirected to search pages on isohunt.com/lite; and (3) U.S. user searches—including searches on the Main isoHunt site—are filtered based on Plaintiffs' lists of titles. While *non*-U.S. users can access Defendants' websites and trackers, the actions of such non-U.S. users were never intended to be the focus of the Injunction, which only applies to acts that occur *within the United States*. [Inj. ¶ 4.]

In April, 2010, Defendants launched a new service, "isoHunt Lite." As Mr. Fung explained in his August 10, 2010 Declaration (Dkt. 455-5, ¶ 2), when isoHunt Lite was launched, isohunt.com (the "Main isoHunt site") was subject to an IP address

1 firewall so that visitors with United States IP addresses (“U.S. users”) could not
 2 access the Main isoHunt site. Instead, U.S. users were directed to isoHunt Lite.
 3 Since about June 2010, pursuant to the Court’s May 20, 2010 Injunction, isoHunt has
 4 filtered search results for U.S. users using lists of titles provided to it by Plaintiffs
 5 under the terms of the Injunction. isoHunt uses Plaintiffs’ lists of titles to determine
 6 which dot-torrent files in isoHunt’s index correspond to titles on Plaintiffs’ lists. This
 7 is not a simple or mechanical process, but requires extensive manual review and
 8 human intervention. [Supp. Fung Decl. ¶ 5.]

9 For example, as this Court and the Ninth Circuit have recognized, Plaintiffs’
 10 lists often contain errors, such as misspellings or typographical errors. In addition,
 11 many of the titles on Plaintiffs’ lists are common words (such as “Cars”), widely-used
 12 names (such as “Madagascar”), or are identical to works that are in the public domain
 13 (such as “Alice in Wonderland” or “The Jungle Book”). *Id.* The Ninth Circuit stated
 14 that Defendants have no obligation to correct errors in Plaintiffs’ titles lists, and also
 15 found parts of the Injunction were “unduly burdensome” and “more burdensome than
 16 necessary.” *Columbia Pictures Indus., Inc. v. Fung*, 710 F.3d at 1049 (citing *L.A.*
 17 *Haven Hospice, Inc. v. Sebelius*, 638 F.3d 644, 664 (9th Cir. 2011) (“[I]njunctive
 18 relief should be no more burdensome to the defendant than necessary . . .”). Yet
 19 even where ambiguities in Plaintiffs’ titles lists create uncertainty, Defendants’
 20 filtering strives to err on the side of over-inclusion rather than under-inclusion.
 21 [Supp. Fung Decl. ¶ 5.] If a dot-torrent file corresponds to one of the titles on
 22 Plaintiffs’ lists, isoHunt’s filtering software prevents the search engine from returning
 23 that file in response to a U.S. user’s search. Thus, U.S. users cannot use isoHunt’s
 24 websites to locate dot-torrent files corresponding to the titles Plaintiffs have identified.

25 Because both the Main isoHunt site and isoHunt Lite use the same search
 26 engine back-end, search filtering works exactly the same way on each site. [Supp.
 27 Fung Decl. ¶¶ 2-10.] The isoHunt Lite site also did not offer certain other features
 28 that the Court had determined were indicia of inducement of copyright infringement,

such as lists of “top searches” or the ability to browse torrents by category. [*Id.* at ¶ 7.] Those features were not available on isoHunt Lite, and thus were unavailable to U.S. users who were redirected to isoHunt Lite beginning in April, 2010. Defendants subsequently determined that they would comply with the Injunction by fully filtering such features on the Main isoHunt site for U.S. users, just as they did for isoHunt Lite. [*Id.* at ¶ 9.] Consequently, as Mr. Fung explained in his September 6, 2013 Declaration (Dkt. 583-3, ¶ 8) and again here (Fung Supp. Decl. ¶¶ 7-10), on or about November 1, 2010, once the redirection from the Main isoHunt site to the isoHunt Lite site became a redundant precaution in light of the filtering on the Main isoHunt site, and the disabling of certain features from the Main isoHunt site, isoHunt stopped automatically redirecting United States users of the Main isoHunt site to isoHunt Lite. [*Id.*] Since that time, isoHunt has continuously filtered on the Main isoHunt site in the same manner as it filters for isoHunt Lite. [*Id.* at ¶ 9.]

As of September 15, 2013, based upon the titles lists provided by Plaintiffs, Defendants have filtered 3,843,483 torrent files so that they are not available to U.S. users. [*Id.* at ¶ 10.] In addition, 929,027 titles are blocked globally for all users based upon our receipt of takedown notices from third party claimants and our implementation of notice and takedown procedures in line with those set forth in the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (“DMCA”). [*Id.* at ¶ 11.] Plaintiffs are simply wrong when they say Defendants are not filtering Plaintiffs’ titles from the Main isoHunt site, and Plaintiffs’ expert’s opinions and arguments based on that misapprehension should be rejected.

B. Plaintiffs’ 2010 Motion for Contempt

Plaintiffs’ Motion for Contempt filed on August 10, 2010 (Dkt. 454) (“Motion”) spent a significant time in briefs and at oral argument complaining that Defendants should be held in contempt because alternate names to Plaintiffs’ titles were not picked up by Defendants’ filtering. [Mot. for Contempt (Dkt. 454) 8/1/10 at 5-8; Trans. (Dkt. 484) 9/1/10 at 5:5-6:7; Trans. 12/14/10 (Dkt. 498) at 7:10-8:4).]

1 Defendants presented evidence in response to the Motion explaining the good faith
2 efforts Defendants had made to deal with the tens of thousands of titles that had been
3 provided, and the burdens that Plaintiffs were attempting to place on Defendants with
4 virtually no cooperation from Plaintiffs. [Fung Decl. In Support of Opp. to Mot. for
5 Contempt (Dkt. 455-5) ¶¶ 31-33.]

6 Paragraph 10 of the original injunction states that the injunction applies “if even
7 a single United States-based user is involved in the swarm process”—but this still
8 requires that the user have some connection to Defendants’ sites or services. It is not
9 enough that a U.S. user with *no connection whatsoever* to isoHunt may have a
10 connection to a non-U.S. third party who may have a connection to isoHunt. Such a
11 “connection” is simply too attenuated to fall under the strictures of the Injunction, and
12 forcing Defendants to comply with such a broad interpretation of the Injunction would
13 run afoul of international sovereignty. Paragraph 5 of the original Injunction also
14 makes clear that Defendants shall not be in violation of this Permanent Injunction as
15 to Copyrighted Works that Plaintiffs have not identified to Defendants, but finding
16 contempt on these grounds would take identification out of the equation altogether.

17 With respect to isoHunt Lite, Plaintiffs withdrew their pending *Ex Parte*
18 Application seeking contempt in connection with Defendants’ isoHunt Lite website
19 based on factual issues regarding filtering, and the Court denied Plaintiffs’ motion
20 with respect to the isoHunt Lite site on that basis. [8/7/13 Order (Dkt. 554) at 6-7.]

21 **C. The Ninth Circuit Finds The Injunction Is Unclear And Fails To**
22 **Give Defendants Notice in Multiple Respects**

23 The Ninth Circuit found “several provisions” of the original injunction
24 “fail[ed]” to meet the standard of Rule 65(d) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure
25 because they were “too vague,” “too imprecise,” “unclear” and “more burdensome
26 than necessary.” *Fung*, 710 F.3d at 1047-49. In multiple other areas, the Ninth
27 Circuit held that additional clarity was required, and that the injunction must be
28 modified to more clearly specify the conduct that is prohibited. *Id.* at 1047-48. Thus,

the Ninth Circuit also made clear that the injunction must provide notice to Defendants so that it was clear how to comply.

Relevant to the present issue, the Ninth Circuit held that Defendants had no obligation to correct Plaintiffs' lists of titles or ascertain alternate titles. *Id.* at 1048-49 ("Fung complains that Plaintiffs' lists of titles are error-filled and that Fung '[is] compelled to locate and correct [the errors] under threat of contempt proceedings' . . . we clarify that Fung has no burden to correct Plaintiffs' errors"). Second, the Ninth Circuit noted that "the injunction explicitly applies only to acts of infringement 'that take place in the United States.'" *Id.* at 1047 n.22. Thus, the Ninth Circuit made clear that nothing in the injunction should be interpreted or understood to apply to users residing outside the United States.

D. The Court Modified The Injunction August 5, 2013

On July 22, 2013, the parties each submitted proposed modified Injunctions. [Dkt. 544.] The Court issued a modified Injunction on August 5, 2013. [Dkt. 551.]

E. Plaintiffs' Supporting Declaration of Horowitz Concedes That Defendants' Existing Filtering Would Be An Acceptable Alternative, and Horowitz's Arguments Are Based On Erroneous Exhibits From the Version of the isoHunt Site Only Available to *Non-U.S.* Users

Plaintiffs' expert, Mr. Horowitz, concedes that Defendants' filtering would be a sufficient alternative to the measures Plaintiffs are otherwise advocating. [Horowitz Decl. (Dkt. 586) ¶ 23 ("it is my understanding that Defendants already filter search results for U.S. users . . . [on the] Isohunt Lite Site . . . Defendants would simply need to use the keyword filter for all Isohunt users regardless of location.").] While Mr. Horowitz attempts to impose filtering "regardless of location," there is no requirement that Defendants filter titles for non-U.S. users. [Inj., ¶ 10.]

Even if, despite Plaintiffs' concession, the Court considered the feasibility of the drastic measures Plaintiffs are advocating, Mr. Horowitz's Exhibits B, C, and D were not even obtained from the versions of Defendants' websites available to U.S.

1 users. [Supp. Fung Decl. ¶ 12] Mr. Horowitz also concedes that only 80,000 of the
 2 over 13 million dot-torrent files are from Fung Trackers, and therefore concedes that
 3 the conduct Plaintiffs are claiming is contempt are *not* users that are being connected
 4 by any of Defendants' trackers, but by third parties. [Horowitz Decl. ¶ 14.]

5 **III. PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR CONTEMPT SHOULD BE DENIED**

6 **A. Defendants Are Filtering On The Main Site, Which Plaintiffs** 7 **Concede Renders Plaintiffs' Request For Sanctions Moot**

8 Apparently recognizing that the measures they are requesting are susceptible to
 9 being rejected as beyond the reasonable bounds of compliance, Plaintiffs set forth the
 10 alternate manner in which Defendants could have complied—filtering—which
 11 Defendants have been doing since 2010. [Plaintiffs' Brief (Dkt. 586) at 3:10-12 ("it is
 12 important to note that Defendants otherwise could have complied with the Injunction
 13 simply by applying an effective copyright filter to Main Isohunt Dot-Torrent files that
 14 correspond to Plaintiffs' copyrighted works"); *id.* at 12:5-6 ("...there is no question
 15 that Defendants could have applied the same keyword filter [as they applied to
 16 isoHunt Lite] to the Main IsoHunt site").] But as Defendants pointed out in their July
 17 25, 2013 brief and in the Declaration of Gary Fung opposing Plaintiffs' renewed
 18 request for sanctions —Defendants have been filtering Plaintiffs' titles from U.S.
 19 users of the Main isoHunt site since June 2010 to comply with the Injunction.
 20 (7/25/13 (Dkt. 547-1) Decl. of Gary Fung, ¶¶ 2-3; Dkt. 547 at 12:16-17 ("And isoHunt
 21 filters Plaintiffs' titles from the main isoHunt site search results just as it filters on
 22 isoHunt lite.")).)

23 As of July 25, 2013, title filtering has blocked 3,656,701 unique torrent hashes.
 24 [7/25/13 (Dkt. 547-1) Decl. of Gary Fung, ¶ 3.] Defendants also err on the side of
 25 "over-filtering." [*Id.*] And since July 25, 2013, over 200,000 additional unique
 26 torrent hashes titles have been blocked. Though Defendants previously pointed out to
 27 Plaintiffs its filtering on the Main isoHunt site, Plaintiffs disregarded this fact, calling
 28 it "misleading" and "at best a tautology," relying solely on the state of the record as it

1 existed in August 2010. [Plaintiffs’ Br. (Dkt. 549) at 9:16-20.] While Plaintiffs are
 2 correct that there was a brief period where U.S. users were not permitted to access the
 3 Main isoHunt site, Defendants subsequently complied with the Injunction by filtering
 4 the Main isoHunt site allowing U.S. users to access the Main isoHunt site, but
 5 applying the same title filtering as it did to isoHunt Lite on that site. Plaintiffs of
 6 course could have confirmed this by accessing the Main isoHunt site themselves using
 7 a U.S. IP address. Instead, they apparently chose to stick their heads in the sand,
 8 willfully ignoring both the evidence and Defendants’ repeated and easily-confirmed
 9 representations. While Plaintiffs claim that “Defendants continue to provide all Main
 10 Isohunt users with unfiltered access to Plaintiffs’ works,” this is simply untrue given
 11 Defendants’ filtering of the Main isoHunt site.

12 **B. Defendants’ Technical Ability To Limit Users From Accessing Non-**
 13 **isoHunt Trackers Is Neither Necessary Nor Required For**
 14 **Defendants to Reasonably Comply With The Injunction**

15 The original Injunction made clear that if Defendants took “all reasonable
 16 steps” to comply, “technical or inadvertent violations of the order will not support a
 17 finding of civil contempt.” [Original Injunction, ¶¶ 2, 3.] In its June 11, 2010 Order,
 18 this Court clarified that this meant “Defendants are left with a reasonable safety-valve
 19 that will prevent them from being harshly penalized for unintentional violations that
 20 occur despite good faith attempts to comply with the injunction.” [6/11/13 Order, 5:3-
 21 8]. Nonetheless, Plaintiffs seek to apply an extreme interpretation of the Injunction
 22 and urge this Court to find contempt against Defendants for conduct that is not a
 23 violation of the injunction at all: first, because Defendants *are* filtering the Main
 24 isoHunt site in exactly the way that Plaintiffs advocate; and second, because even if
 25 they were not, Defendants cannot be held responsible for conduct of unrelated third
 26 parties occurring outside isoHunt’s own system. Plaintiffs are asking the Court to
 27 hold Defendants in contempt, despite Defendants’ reasonable, good faith efforts to
 28 comply with the injunction, based on hypothetical conduct by non-isoHunt users

1 connected through non-isoHunt trackers to engage in activities entirely outside of
2 Defendants' control.

3 Defendants have taken "all reasonable steps within" their "power to insure
4 compliance with [the] injunction." *Hook*, 107 F.3d at 1403. Plaintiffs' strained
5 interpretation of Paragraph 10 would interpret the term "United States-based user" so
6 broadly as to hold isoHunt responsible for the actions of any United States-based user
7 *of the Internet* irrespective of whether they ever used Defendants' system. Since
8 before the Injunction Order, IsoHunt's trackers have no longer been accessible to
9 visitors from the United States. (Fung Decl. (Dkt. 455-5) ¶¶ 2-3.)] With isoHunt's
10 filtering and blocking in place, no one with a U.S. IP address can download from
11 isoHunt a dot-torrent file containing any metadata of Plaintiffs' works. Even if such
12 an individual were to obtain the dot-torrent file from another source (unrelated to
13 isoHunt), he or she could not use an isoHunt tracker to join any swarm distributing the
14 Plaintiffs' work. Thus, individuals with U.S. IP addresses can *only* join a swarm for
15 one of Plaintiffs' works if they (a) download a corresponding dot-torrent file from a
16 non-isoHunt site, *and* (b) access a non-isoHunt tracker, which connects them with
17 multiple specified users (i.e. the "swarm"). isoHunt cannot control or monitor the
18 actions of such an individual, and the injunction does not require it.

19 Similarly, a foreign isoHunt user can join a swarm that includes a member with
20 a U.S. IP address if, and *only* if, the foreign user accesses a non-isoHunt tracker to do
21 so, *and* the United States user obtained his or her dot-torrent file from a non-isoHunt
22 source, *and* the United States user also accesses a non-isoHunt tracker. Again,
23 isoHunt cannot control or monitor these actions. Requiring it to do so would import
24 the very extraterritoriality prohibition confirmed by the Ninth Circuit. *Fung*, 710 F.3d
25 at 1047 n. 22.) Indeed, the Ninth Circuit noted in its Order that "[t]he injunction
26 explicitly applies only to acts of infringement 'that take place in the United States.'" *Id.*
27 Thus, nothing in the Injunction should be interpreted or understood to apply to
28 users residing outside the United States. Plaintiffs have not articulated any theory of

1 copyright infringement—because there is none—under which Defendants could
 2 conceivably be held liable for the infringing acts of multiple, unrelated third parties,
 3 over whom they have no control whatsoever, concerning whose actions they lack
 4 knowledge and could not obtain knowledge. Nevertheless, under Plaintiffs’ extreme
 5 and expansive interpretation of Paragraph 10, isoHunt must somehow police the entire
 6 Internet or risk violating the injunction. The Court should reject Plaintiffs’ demand
 7 that it hold isoHunt to this impossible standard.

8 The difficulty is easily avoided by giving the term “United States-based user”
 9 its natural meaning: a United States-based user *of isoHunt*. Even Plaintiffs
 10 acknowledged that Paragraph 10 applies to Defendants’ users (not just users of the
 11 Internet). (Plaintiffs Opp. to Mot. to Stay, filed under seal 6/1/10 (stating that “[t]he
 12 Court gave defendants . . . guidance as to the circumstances that would constitute
 13 violation of U.S. Copyright law by *their users*”; and noting that the “injunction”
 14 means that “*their non-U.S. users* violate U.S. copyright law when they join in a
 15 BitTorrent swarm with users from the United States.”) Plaintiffs’ inconsistency and
 16 opportunism is confirmed by their attempts to force the same words to mean different
 17 things as it suits their purposes in this case.

18 Moreover, Plaintiffs’ proposed grounds for contempt against Defendants is for
 19 third party conduct that is entirely disassociated from the inducement Defendants were
 20 found liable for in this case. In *Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, Inc. v. Grokster, Ltd.*,
 21 518 F. Supp. 2d. 1197, this Court made clear that it was not proper for the plaintiffs’
 22 permanent injunction to prohibit the defendant from engaging in activities—even
 23 infringing activities—“that are far beyond the bounds of this lawsuit.” *Id.* at 1226. In
 24 *Grokster*, as here, the defendant had been held “liable for the inducement of
 25 infringement only.” *Id.* Yet the plaintiffs proposed a permanent injunction directed at
 26 direct infringement. This Court found that the plaintiff “offer[ed] no persuasive
 27 reasons why [the defendant] should be subject to an injunction that extends beyond
 28 inducement.” *Id.* at 1227. As this Court explained, “a district court should only

1 include injunctive terms that have a common sense relationship to the needs of the
 2 specific case, and the conduct for which a defendant has been held liable.” *Id.* at
 3 1226. In so holding, this Court relied on Supreme Court precedent, *NLRB v. Express*
 4 *Pub. Co.*, 312 U.S. 426 (1941) as “instructive,” which held that “[a] federal court has
 5 broad power to restrain acts which are of the same type or class as unlawful acts
 6 which the court has found to have been committed or whose commission in the future
 7 unless enjoined, may fairly be anticipated from the defendant's conduct in the past.
 8 But the mere fact that a court *has found that* a defendant has committed an act in
 9 violation of a statute does not justify an injunction broadly to obey the statute and thus
 10 subject the defendant to contempt proceedings if he shall at any time in the future
 11 commit some new violation unlike and unrelated to that with which he was originally
 12 charged.” *Id.* at 1126-27 (emphasis in original).

13 The very concerns articulated by the Supreme Court in *NLRB* and recognized
 14 by this Court in *Grokster* are also present here. Defendants were held liable for
 15 inducement, and an injunction issued to prevent future conduct that could fairly be
 16 traceable to those acts of inducement. But Plaintiffs are seeking to broaden the scope
 17 of Paragraph 10 of the injunction through interpreting “users” so broadly that it would
 18 subject Defendants to contempt based on conduct by third parties that Defendants do
 19 not control; conduct far removed from the inducement that was litigated for Plaintiffs
 20 to obtain summary judgment and the permanent injunction in the first place. The
 21 Court should decline to adopt this retroactive expansion of liability against Defendants
 22 through contempt proceedings.

23 Finally, Exhibits B, C, and D attached to the Declaration of Mr. Ellis Horowitz
 24 filed on or about September 9, 2013 (Dkt. 587) are screenshots from a non-U.S.
 25 version of isoHunt.com—not a filtered version, which is the only version that would
 26 be accessible from a user with a United States IP address. While Mr. Horowitz is
 27 correct (¶¶ 10-11) that the number of total torrents from the unfiltered Main isoHunt
 28 site is over 13 million, and that most of those torrents are not tracked by Fung

Trackers, none of his figures accurately reflect the filtered numbers of torrents appearing to United States users of isoHunt's Main site. [Supp. Fung Decl. ¶ 12.]

C. The Ninth Circuit Order Renders Moot Plaintiffs' Pending Claims of Contempt

It is well settled in the Ninth Circuit that a defendant cannot be found in contempt of an injunction where the appellate court has found that underlying injunction unlawful. *See e.g., Kirkland v. Legion Ins. Co.*, 343 F.3d 1135, 1142 (9th Cir. 2003) ("The validity of a contempt adjudication is based on the legitimacy of the underlying order."); *Davies v. Grossmont Union High Sch. Dist.*, 930 F.2d 1390, 1394 (9th Cir. 1991) ("legitimacy of the contempt adjudication is based on the validity of the underlying order"); *Scott & Fetzer Co. v. Dile*, 643 F.2d 670, 675 (9th Cir. 1981) ("Contrary to the general rule regarding criminal contempt, a civil contempt judgment may fall if the underlying injunction is invalidated. The Supreme Court stated in *United States v. United Mine Workers*, 330 U.S. 258, 295, 67 S.Ct. 677, 696, 91 L.Ed. 884 (1947), that '(t)he right to remedial relief falls with an injunction which events prove was erroneously issued.'"). A district court may punish a party for contempt only if the order is clear and unambiguous: "An unclear order provides insufficient notice to justify a sanction as harsh as contempt." *Fonar Corp. v. Deccaid Services, Inc.*, 983 F.2d 427, 429-30 (2d Cir. 1993); *see also Reno Air Racing Ass'n v. McCord*, 452 F.3d 1126, 1134 (9th Cir. 2006) (trial court's TRO was "improperly issued ex parte and failed to describe the prohibited conduct with specificity"). Here, there is no question that the Ninth Circuit has found the injunction unlawful and unclear in multiple respects.¹

Plaintiffs' counsel has represented to the Court that the modifications and clarity at issue in the Ninth Circuit Opinion "all had to do with provisions that are not

¹ This Court has acknowledged the issue of clarity, noting that "the injunction in several parts . . . was viewed by the Ninth Circuit as being less than clear. So the question becomes if parts of the injunction were not as clear as they ought to have been, that would seem to be a built-in defense to contempt." [Golinveaux Decl. (Dkt. 567-7 at Ex. 6) 7/1/13 Trans. at 12:9-11.]

1 at issue in the contempt motion, so none of what the Ninth Circuit suggested or
2 directed to be modified has anything to do with any of the issues that are subject of the
3 contempt motions.” [Golinveaux Decl. (Dkt. 567-7 at Ex. 6) 7/1/13 Trans. at 12:19-
4 23.] That is patently incorrect. A significant part of the pending contempt Motion
5 turned on whether Defendants were required to correct or ascertain alternatives for the
6 over 20,000 titles Plaintiffs provided. The Ninth Circuit made clear that it was not
7 required, finding unequivocally that Defendants had no obligation to correct
8 Plaintiffs’ lists of titles or ascertain alternate titles. [*Fung*, 710 F.3d at 1048-49.]
9 Thus, with respect to Plaintiffs’ complaints that Defendants are obligated to correct or
10 ascertain alternate names to their works, this issue was *entirely mooted* by the Ninth
11 Circuit’s ruling. *Id.* at 1048-49. This issue is inextricably interwoven with the issues
12 for which Plaintiffs seek to hold Defendants in contempt, but Plaintiffs fail to explain
13 how it is possible to parse the complex injunction without taking account of these
14 highly relevant filtering issues. The modifications to the injunction clearly impact
15 Plaintiffs’ pending claims of contempt, and the Court should deny Plaintiffs’ Motion
16 on this basis.

17 **IV. CONCLUSION**

18 Contrary to Plaintiffs’ contentions, Defendants are filtering titles from U.S.
19 users on the Main isoHunt site in the same manner as on isoHunt lite. Thus, the Court
20 should deny Plaintiffs’ Motion with respect to the Main isoHunt site for the same
21 reasons it did for isoHunt Lite. Second, Defendants should not be found in contempt
22 for their good faith and reasonable efforts to comply with the original Injunction for
23 conduct that is not within their knowledge or control and would impermissibly extend
24 the scope of the injunction extraterritorially. Third, Plaintiffs should not be permitted
25 to obtain a finding of contempt against Defendants with respect to an Injunction that
26 was found unlawful and was modified *after* Plaintiffs filed their Motion. For all of the
27 foregoing reasons, the Court should deny Plaintiffs’ Motion.
28

1 Dated: September 16, 2013

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